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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board



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| Meeting Date | 01 February 2020 | Agenda Item | 4.2 |
| Report Title | Wales Safeguarding Procedures (2019) | | |
| Report Author | Nicola Edwards, Head of Nursing – Safeguarding | | |
| Report Sponsor | Cathy Dowling, Deputy Director of Nursing and Patient Experience Gareth Howells, Director of Nursing and Patient Experience | | |
| Presented by | Gareth Howells, Director of Nursing and Patient Experience | | |
| Freedom of Information | Open | | |
| Purpose of the Report | The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of the key changes for the Health Board following the recent launch of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures | | |
| Key Issues | <p>The main changes in the revised Procedures that will impact on the Health Board are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of how to promote the use of digital technology to use the Procedures. • Duty to Report, all “Adult at Risk Reports/Referrals” to be submitted to relevant Local Authority from February 3rd 2020 in line with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, Section 7, Volumes 5 & 6 on handling individual cases • Change of language ‘Safeguarding’ and ‘Adult at Risk’, (not POVA) and ‘Report not Referral’ (not VA1) • Changes to how allegations/concerns about practitioner and those in a position of trust are managed. This has been brought in line with how this is managed for those who work with children. All Local Authorities should have an identified manager responsible for Safeguarding who is accountable and responsible for allegations against professional and those in a position of trust. | | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current Health Board Policies, Procedures and arrangements will require review to ensure compliance with the revised Wales Safeguarding Procedures. This work is being completed by the Corporate Safeguarding team and reported to the Safeguarding Committee | | | |
| Specific Action Required <i>(please choose one only)</i> | Information | Discussion | Assurance | Approval |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recommendations | Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOTE THE REPORT | | | |

WALES SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide the Mental Health Legislative Committee with an overview of the key changes for Swansea Bay University Health Board following the launch of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures in November 2019. Launch events were held during National Safeguarding Week 11-15th November in both Cardiff and Rhyl, with representation from Swansea Bay UHB attending the event in Cardiff.

2. BACKGROUND

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures were developed by a project team led by Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board, together with the Emeritus Professor Jan Horwarth. The purpose was to ensure the Procedures reflect current legislation and to build on the statutory guidance of the *Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014*, Part 7 Safeguarding and specifically Working Together to Safeguard People volumes 1, 4, 5 and 6.

The Procedures have been written to provide clear guidance and expectations for Safeguarding both adults and children. The Procedures apply to all who are employed in statutory, private and third sectors (whether through paid or unpaid work) and aim to help anyone who works with adults, children or young people to apply the legislation and statutory guidance of the *Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014* to their roles and duties by explaining what their responsibilities are and how to meet them.

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures are the first universal national Safeguarding Procedures for Wales which detail essential roles/responsibilities for practitioners to ensure those at risk of abuse/neglect/harm are safeguarded. The new procedures' were launched during National Safeguarding Week (11th – 15th of November). There is an expectation that the Procedures will have been adopted and fully implemented by every Safeguarding Board region in Wales by April 2020. Gwent and Cardiff and the Vale Regional Safeguarding Boards were the first Safeguarding Boards in Wales to formally adopt the Procedures. Locally, the Procedures are to be discussed and formally adopted at the West Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board meeting January 15th 2020. When endorsed at the regional level all partners agencies will be committed to applying the Procedures within their own organisations. All agencies will be supported to implement the Procedures by their Regional Safeguarding Board Business Unit and regional training events that are to be delivered on behalf of Social Care Wales.

3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures are available to view either via the official website, Safeguarding Wales (www.safeguarding.wales), or by downloading the Wales Safeguarding Procedure App that is available for both iPhone and Android devices. The Procedures have been designed digitally and therefore there will be no printed copies. The Procedures in the first year will be updated quarterly. Following this it is planned they will be updated six monthly, ensuring there will be always be a single up to date version available to all practitioners which will reflect any changes in legislation, guidance and practice development. One of the most useful elements of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures are the Pointers for Practice. These set out best practice for areas and offer simple step by step guidance on how to help identify and raise issues for practitioners incorporating the latest research and practice developments. Throughout the Procedures, there are hyperlinks to relevant legislation and guidance.

The main changes in the Wales Safeguarding Procedures that impact on the Health Board are:

- Consideration of how to promote the use of technology to use the Procedures. Communication briefings has been developed and circulated to Health Board staff during and following National Safeguarding Week. The Corporate Safeguarding Team have offered to attend any Professional/Unit meeting to advise staff of the new Procedures and imminent changes. Also, the Safeguarding Procedures will be the focus of the Safeguarding Newsletter, January 2020
- Change of language 'Safeguarding' and 'Adult at Risk', (not POVA) and 'Report not Referral' (not VA1)
- All Adult/Child at Risk/Professional Concerns Reports are to be submitted to the Local Authority where the abuse/neglect occurred and followed up in writing on the relevant form within 24 hours
- Views/wishes/feeling of individuals are to be considered throughout
- Changes to how allegations/concerns about those who work with children, young people or adults, either in a paid or voluntary capacity and those in a position of trust are managed. The Wales Safeguarding Procedures ensure a consistent approach. All Local Authorities should have an identified senior manager responsible for Safeguarding who is accountable and responsible for allegations against professional and those in positions of trust. This individual is responsible for managing all allegations made against staff and volunteers who work with children, young people and adults at risk within their area.
- Current Health Board Policies, Procedures and arrangements will require reviewing to ensure compliance with the revised Wales Safeguarding Procedures. This work is currently being completed by the Corporate

Safeguarding team and will be reported to February's Safeguarding Committee.

Each Regional Safeguarding Board is responsible for scheduling their own timetable for adoption of the Procedures. It is anticipated that the Wales Safeguarding Procedures will be considered by each Safeguarding Board by the end of January 2020.

Social Care Wales are working with a training provider to develop training materials for all sectors. The training plan is yet to be agreed locally. When details of regional training events are received this will be circulated to Health Board staff and all facilitated Safeguarding Training will be updated when the training packages are made available. The first in house updated Safeguarding training date has been arranged 17th February 2020.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report makes no recommendations to the Committee that carry financial implications. However, it should be noted there will be a potential resource implication, as staff will be required to undertake additional Safeguarding training.

5. RECOMMENDATION

The Mental Health Legislation Committee are requested to note the report and the changes that impact on the Health Board.

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| Governance and Assurance | | |
| Link to Enabling Objectives (please choose) | Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities | |
| | Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Co-Production and Health Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people | |
| | Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Partnerships for Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Excellent Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Digitally Enabled Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health and Care Standards | | |
| (please choose) | Staying Healthy | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Safe Care | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Effective Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Dignified Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Timely Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Individual Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Staff and Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Quality, Safety and Patient Experience | | |
| Standard 2.7 of the Health and Care Standards (Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults at Risk) requires health services to promote and protect the welfare and safety of children and adults who become vulnerable or at risk at any time. | | |
| Financial Implications | | |
| There will be a potential resource implication, as staff will be required to undertake additional training. The regional training plan to be agreed by Regional Safeguarding Boards. | | |
| Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment) | | |
| Section 128 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 imposes a statutory duty on relevant partners (including Health Boards and Trusts in Wales), to report concerns to a Local Authority in relation to 'adults and children at risk' | | |
| Staffing Implications | | |
| This report makes no recommendations to the committee that carry staffing implications. | | |
| Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015) | | |
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| Report History | N/A | |
| Appendices | N/A | |